

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 are pending. Independent claims 1, 11, 21 and 23 have been amended. Applicants respectfully request continued examination of the application in response to the Advisory Action in view of the aforementioned amendments and the following remarks.

In the Advisory Action, the Office maintains the rejection of claims 1-3, 6-13 and 16-24 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over "The Virtual Reality Modeling Language Specification Version 2.0" to Bell et al. ("Bell") in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0026642 to Augenbraun *et al.* ("Augenbraun") and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,130,898 to Kostreski *et al.* ("Kostreski"). Applicants traverse this rejection for at least the following reasons.

Applicants submit that no combination of Bell, Augenbraun and Kostreski teaches or suggests all of the features of independent claim 1, as amended, which recites, among other features:

(b) the terminal forming an upstream channel message if a user request of predetermined processing of a predetermined object occurs in a scene transmitted from the server to the terminal through the downstream channel, and transmitting the message to the server through the upstream channel, wherein the upstream channel message identifies a corresponding node in the scene in which the user request occurred, and wherein the user request is generated by the user selecting the predetermined object in the scene transmitted from the server to the terminal through the downstream channel.

For example, as explained in the Amendment filed on March 27, 2007, FIGS. 6A-6D of the instant application illustrate that, in one embodiment, a user can watch a display screen of a terminal having an MPEG-4 BIFS scene decoder, and using an input device, such as a mouse, select an object in which an error occurred in a displayed MPEG-4 BIFS scene that was transmitted to the terminal by a sever

having an MPEG-4 BIFS scene encoder. (See, Specification at page 10, lines 7-18, emphasis added). To retransmit to the user only the node corresponding to the object selected by the user, the terminal forms and transmits to the server an upstream message that identifies, using a node identifier (e.g., "NodeID"), the corresponding node in the scene in which the user request occurred. (Specification at page 10, lines 18-20). Using the NodeID of the selected object, the server can then find the corresponding node in the hierarchical structure of the MPEG-4 BIFS scene and retransmit the corresponding node and, if necessary, information on all nodes of lower levels. (Specification at page 10, lines 25-29). In this way, the volume of information to be transmitted for restoration from the error can be minimized. (Specification at page 11, lines 8-9).

The Office indicated in the final Office action that Bell and Augenbraun do not teach or suggest "wherein the upstream channel message identifies a corresponding node in the scene in which the user request occurred." (See, final Office action at page 4). Moreover, Applicants respectfully disagree with the Office that Kostreski supplies the teachings missing from Bell and Augenbraun and, in particular, does not teach or suggest "wherein the user request is generated by the user selecting the predetermined object in the scene transmitted from the server to the terminal through the downstream channel," as recited in amended claim 1.

As explained in the Amendment filed on March 27, 2007, Kostreski describes a user ordering a pay-per-view event via a digital entertainment terminal (DET) 100, which exchanges messages with a gateway 31 to validate the identity of the terminal and authorization for the user of the terminal to purchase pay-per-view events and, if the purchase is authorized, to identify the event. (Kostreski at col. 25, lines 52-56

and line 61 to col. 26, line 2). While Kostreski teaches that, after selection of the event, a CPU 105 instructs an MPEG demultiplexer 127 to supply packets to respective MPEG decoders 129, 131 to begin MPEG decoding of the selected pay-per-view event, nowhere does Kostreski describe a user request processing method, using an upstream channel, after a three-dimensional scene generated based on a binary format is transmitted from a server to a terminal, "wherein the user request is generated by the user selecting the predetermined object in the scene transmitted from the server to the terminal through the downstream channel," as recited in amended claim 1. (See, Advisory Action at Continuation Sheet, lines 11-15, citing Kostreski at col. 26, lines 27-41).

Thus, Applicants submit that because no combination of Bell, Augenbraun and Kostreski teaches or suggests all the claim limitations of independent claim 1, as amended, independent claim 1 and, dependent claims 2, 3 and 6-10, which depend therefrom, are patentable over Bell in view of Augenbraun and Kostreski. For reasons analogous to those presented for claim 1, Applicants submit that independent claim 11, as amended, and dependent claims 12, 13 and 16-20, which depend therefrom, independent claim 21, as amended, and dependent claim 22, which depends therefrom, and independent claim 23, as amended, and dependent claim 24, which depends therefrom, are also patentable over Bell in view of Augenbraun and Kostreski.

Additionally, in the Advisory Action, the Office maintains the rejection of dependent claims 4, 5, 14 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Bell in view of Augenbraun and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,654,761 to Tenev *et al.* ("Tenev"). Applicants traverse this rejection for at least the

following reasons. For at least the same reasons presented for independent claims 1 and 11, Applicants submit that claims 4, 5, 14 and 15, which depend therefrom, are patentable over Bell in view of Augenbraun, and that Tenev does not supply, and is not purported to supply, the teachings missing from amended independent claims 1 and 11. At a minimum, Applicants submit that no combination of Bell, Augenbraun and Tenev teaches or suggests "wherein the user request is generated by the user selecting the predetermined object in the scene transmitted from the server," as recited in amended claims 1 and 11.

It is believed that this Amendment is accompanied by the required fees. However, if additional fees are required for any reason, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-4800 the necessary amount.

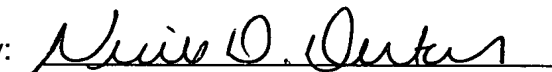
In the event that there are any questions concerning this paper, or the application in general, the Examiner is respectfully urged to telephone Applicants' undersigned representative so that prosecution of the application may be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,

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